

to working with Members of this body and ultimately Members of the other House in seeing if we cannot fashion what the President has been unwilling to come forth and produce, and that is a balanced budget.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TAX PROTOCOL WITH THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS (TREATY DOC. NO. 104-23)

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, in an executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the Tax Protocol for the Kingdom of the Netherlands (Treaty Document No. 104-23), transmitted to the Senate by the President on January 3, 1996; and ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The message of the President is as follows:

#### *To the Senate of the United States:*

I transmit herewith for Senate advice and consent to ratification, the Protocol between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Respect of the Netherlands Antilles Amending Article VIII of the 1948 Convention with Respect to Taxes on Income and Certain Other Taxes as Applicable to the Netherlands Antilles, signed at Washington on October 10, 1995. Also transmitted for the information of the Senate is the report of the Department of State with respect to the Protocol.

The Protocol amends Article VIII (1) of the Convention to limit the exemption from U.S. taxation of interest on debt instruments to interest paid on instruments issued on or before October 15, 1984, by a U.S. person to a related controlled foreign corporation that was in existence before October 15, 1984.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Protocol, and give its advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, January 3, 1996.

#### COMMENDING J. KEITH KENNEDY

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I send a resolution to the desk commending J. Keith Kennedy for his service as Re-

publican staff director of the Appropriations Committee and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 208) commending J. Keith Kennedy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, this resolution commends J. Keith Kennedy, who has served as the Republican staff director for the Appropriations Committee for 15 years, having assumed that position 15 years ago today.

Keith is a very valuable member of the Senate staff, upon whom we have all relied at one time or another.

I know my colleagues join Senator HATFIELD and BYRD in wishing Keith continued success in his position—we will continue to rely on his sound counsel.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate and to convey my appreciation to a member of my staff, J. Keith Kennedy. Today marks the 15-year anniversary of Keith's service as the Republican staff director of the Senate Appropriations Committee, serving either in the majority or in the minority as fortune permitted. Mr. Kennedy has steered the staff with a firm, but gentle hand at the helm, through the often choppy waters of legislative process. Such continuity has provided the Senate with the type of institutional memory that keeps us from remaking some of the mistakes of the past. In this capacity, Mr. Kennedy has worked to uphold the position of the Senate in negotiations with three administrations—those of Presidents Ronald Reagan, George Bush, and Bill Clinton, five OMB directors—David Stockman, James Miller, Richard Darman, Leon Panetta, and Alice Rivlin, and a House of Representatives under both Democratic and Republican majorities. During that time, he helped implement the Reagan revolution of the early 1980's when many of us were still trying to get our sea legs in a Senate with a new Republican majority. In the 1990's, he has played a key role in charting a course out of fiscal excesses of earlier years.

Keith has served the Senate with distinction and honor for over 23 years. I have come to rely on him as a trusted adviser, policy expert, and friend.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 208) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 208

Whereas J. Keith Kennedy has served as majority or minority Chief Clerk and Staff Director of the Committee on Appropriations since January 3, 1981;

Whereas he has ably served the Senate in various other roles since September of 1972;

Whereas he has served as clerk of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee, in which capacity he has endeavored to provide for the welfare and benefit of the entire U.S. Senate and its employees;

Whereas he has overseen the modernization and streamlining of the day-to-day operations of the Senate Appropriations Committee;

Whereas he has ably represented the interests of the Appropriations Committee and the Senate in all budget negotiations since 1981;

Whereas he has upheld the high standards and traditions of the Senate with abiding devotion; and

Whereas he has earned the respect, affection and esteem of the United States Senate: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That on this fifteenth anniversary of his tenure, the Senate express its commendation, appreciation and gratitude to J. Keith Kennedy for his continuing service and for jobs well done.

#### CONGRATULATING BRETT FAVRE FOR WINNING THE 1995 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate turn to consideration of Senate Resolution 207, a resolution submitted earlier today by myself and Senator LOTT.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 207) to congratulate Brett Favre, a native of Kiln, Mississippi, for winning the 1995 National Football League Most Valuable Player Award.

Whereas Brett Favre, a native of Kiln, Mississippi, is a professional football player with the Green Bay Packers;

Whereas Brett Favre has demonstrated extraordinary skills as an athlete and has proven himself a leader and top performer in the National Football League;

Whereas Brett Favre has been named the Most Valuable Player of the National Football League for 1995: Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate of the United States congratulates Brett Favre for the outstanding season he has had as quarterback of the Green Bay Packers and for being named the Most Valuable Player of the National Football League for 1995.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, it is with much pride that I submit a resolution congratulating Brett Favre for his outstanding accomplishment in being named the Most Valuable Player of the National Football League for 1995. Brett is a native of my State of Mississippi.

He grew up in the Kiln community near the Mississippi Gulf Coast and starred as a student and athlete at Hancock Central High School. He first received national attention as quarterback for the University of Southern Mississippi, where he led his team to victories over such nationally ranked powers as Florida State University, University of Alabama, and Auburn University.